

Clinton Avenue Historic District
Thomas L. Van Gaasbeek House
308 Clinton Avenue
Kingston
Ulster County
New York

HABS No. NY-5561-G

HABS,
NY
56-KING,
21G-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. NY-5561-G

CLINTON AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

THOMAS L. VAN GAASBEEK HOUSE

Location: 308 Clinton Avenue, Kingston, Ulster County, New York.
Latitude 41° 56' 05" Longitude 74° 01' 06"

Present Owner: Urban Renewal Agency.

Present Use: Field Office for Urban Renewal Agency.

Significance: This is a good example of a large wooden dwelling house with some classical details in the early nineteenth century.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: The house was built circa 1824.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners:

1824 Deed: 20 November 1824, Recorded: 14 May 1825
liber 26, page 676
John Ten Broeck and Margaret, his wife
Henry Ten Broeck and Margaret, his wife
Cornelius Ten Broeck and Anna, his wife
Wessel Ten Broeck and Christina, his wife
sons of Abraham Ten Broeck, deceased
to
Severyn Bruyn in trust for
Arriyetta Van Gaasbeek, wife of Thomas Van Gaasbeek

1836 Quit claim deed: 19 April 1836, Recorded:
11 June 1838
liber 51, page 7
to
Thomas L. Van Gaasbeek

- 1839 Deed: 29 January 1839, Recorded: 30 March 1839
liber 52, page 269
Thomas L. Van Gaasbeek to John Ferguson
- 1841 Deed: 6 September 1841, Recorded: 29 July 1842
liber 59, page 26
John Ferguson
to
Benjamin F. Vallett
- 1866 Deed: May 1866, Recorded: 5 May 1866
liber 136, page 553
William Vallett by Caleb S. Clay, guardian
to
Daniel Johnston
- 1868 Deed: 30 April 1868, Recorded 1 May 1868
liber 149, page 8
Daniel Johnston and
Eliza Johnston, his wife
to
Frederick F. Peters
- 1874 Deed: 10 October 1874, Recorded: 10 October 1874
liber 190, page 46
Frederick F. Peters
to
Jane C. Newkirk
- 1874 Deed: 10 October 1874, Recorded: 10 October 1874
liber 190, page 47
Jane C. Newkirk
to
Mary Josephine Peters, wife of Frederick F. Peters
- 1878 Deed: 31 May 1878, Recorded: 3 June 1878
liber 211, page 579
Mary J. Peters, wife of Frederick F. Peters
Frederick F. Peters
to
Howard Hendricks
Lucy M. Hendricks, his wife
- 1921 Will written: 3 December 1921, Proved 17 January 1922,
liber 10 of wills, page 619
Howard Hendricks, deceased
to
Kenneth L. Hendricks, and
Helena Kellogg Wood, his children
- 1922 Deed: 5 January 1922, Recorded: 7 March 1922
liber 487, page 430
Lucy M. Hendricks
to
Kenneth L. Hendricks
Perlina (Helena) Kellogg Wood

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THOMAS L. VAN GAASBEEK HOUSE

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- 1933 Deed: 14 February 1933, Recorded: 24 February 1933
liber 563, page 405
Perlina (Helena) K. Wood
to
Kenneth L. Hendricks
- 1935 Deed: 24 July 1935, Recorded: 30 July 1935
liber 576, page 591
Kenneth L. Hendricks
Zadia Hendricks, his wife
to
Harriet Bell
- 1942 Deed: 29 October 1942, Recorded: 29 October 1942
liber 629, page 370
Harriet Bell
to
Ulster County Savings Institution
- 1943 Deed: 6 November 1943, Recorded: 8 November 1943
liber 637, page 319
Ulster County Savings Institution
to
Carol de la Vergne
- 1948 Deed: 4 October 1948, Recorded: 10 December 1948
liber 721, page 450
Carol de la Vergne
to
The American National Red Cross
- 1970 Deed: 18 March 1970, Recorded: 6 April 1970
liber 1241, page 251
The American National Red Cross
to
Kingston Urban Renewal Agency

4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Not known.
5. Original plan and construction: Not known.

6. Alterations and additions: A rear lean-to addition was built sometime after the original house was built.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

Thomas L. Van Gaasbeek was a Revolutionary soldier, who, judging from deeds, probably built this house sometime around 1824 on land of his wife, Arriyetta. He moved to Oxford, New York in 1836, dying there in 1841 (from: Notes of E. Robert Johnston).

C. Sources of Information:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Deeds, County Clerk's Office, Ulster County Office Building, Kingston, New York.

Interview, Johnston, E. Robert, historian of Van Gaasbeek Family, Saugerties, New York.

Wills, Surrogate's Office, Ulster County Office Building, Kingston, New York.

2. Secondary and published sources:

Map of Ulster County, Philadelphia: Taintor, Dawson and Company, 1858.

Prepared by William C. Badger
Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
Summer 1972

PART II ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is a good example of a large wooden dwelling house with classical details built in the early nineteenth century.
2. Condition of fabric: The over-all condition of the house is fair.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions:

This rectangular- shaped house is about 35' wide (five-bay front) with a rear lean-to addition and is two-and-a-half stories. The rear is three-and-a-half stories.

2. Foundations: The house sits on a stone foundation.

3. Wall construction, finish and color: The front facade is clapboard about five inches deep. The side elevation is larger clapboard, about ten inches deep. The house is painted light gray with white trim.

4. Structural system: Wood frame structural system supports the house.

5. Porch: There is a three-story wood porch on the rear.

6. Chimneys: There are two brick chimneys on either side of the gables in the roof.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The front entrance is in the center bay. It is pedimented with simple pilasters and has a transom and sidelights. The door itself is paneled.

b. Windows: Wooden double-hung windows on both floors have twelve-over-twelve light sash.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: The roof is a gable with a low pitch lean-to on the rear, and are covered with asphalt shingles.

b. Cornice: There is an unadorned, bracketed cornice.

C. Description of Interior: The house was inaccessible at the time survey was being conducted by the Historic American Buildings Survey.

D. Site: The house faces west on the east side of Clinton Avenue. The south of the house joins the adjacent house. The house is set close on the sidewalk in front. The ground slopes in the rear.

Prepared by: William C. Badger
Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
Summer 1972

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) under joint sponsorship of the National Park Service and the Kingston Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission with financial assistance from the New York Council on the Arts. Measured and drawn during the summer of 1972 under the direction of John Poppeliers, chief of HABS and under the supervision of Roy Eugene Graham (University of Texas at Austin) by student architects Philip D. Ward (University of Washington), A. Carol Boerder (University of Texas at Austin), M. Morgan Gick (University of Notre Dame), and Stephen O. Fildes (Texas Tech University). The drawings were edited in December 1972 by architect John Burns. The written architectural and historical data was prepared by William C. Badger (University of Pennsylvania), the project historian, and edited in January 1980 by Susan McCown, a historian in the HABS office. The photos were taken in August 1973 by Jack E. Boucher of HABS staff.